

DCI/IC 74-0556

74-741/B

6 MAR 1974

VADM V. P. de Poix, USN
Director
Defense Intelligence Agency
Washington, D. C. 20301

Dear Vince:

Regarding your suggestion that the CCPC resume its study of ways to improve collection in the Middle East, North Africa, and the Persian Gulf, the SIGINT, COMIREX, and Human Resources Committees of USIB have been giving the matter close attention, particularly since the October war. A number of committee reports on this subject have been distributed in the community.

In addition to this, the Key Intelligence Questions Evaluation Process (KEP) is looking at the major problems in these areas in the near term. Collection is an important element in the KEP. (I note that the Critical Near Term Defense Intelligence Objectives will serve as a basis for the DOD input to the Key Intelligence Questions.)

Thus, I suggest that we let the KEP process proceed as a first step and not initiate a duplicative CCPC effort. If additional attention is needed thereafter, we can discuss it then.

Sincerely,

/s/ Bill

W. E. Colby

DCI/IC/PRG: []:bg/smg (20 Feb 74)

Rewritten: WEC:bg (6 Mar 74)

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INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY STAFF SUMMARY SHEET DCI/IC 74-0556

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SUBJECT

CCPC Collection Study on Middle East

REMARKS

1. PURPOSE: To reply to letter from Director, Defense Intelligence Agency concerning Middle East collection study.

2. BACKGROUND: On 9 January 1974, the Acting Chairman of the Critical Collection Problems Committee (CCPC) sought DCI approval to develop an intelligence community strategy for all-source collection against identified intelligence gaps in the Middle East--to be based on the Key Intelligence Questions (KIQ). I replied on 17 January that this should be discussed with George Carver and that I did not envisage the CCPC as the principal player in the KIQ process. On 2 February, Director, DIA, requested DCI support for resumption of the study. This letter is in reply to Admiral de Poix.

3. DISCUSSION, CONCLUSIONS: This response has been coordinated with the Deputy NIO for Middle East and Islamic Affairs. While the first area KIQ to be evaluated concerns the Middle East, with little emphasis on the Persian Gulf and North Africa, the latter areas will be addressed in subsequent KIQs. A separate CCPC study on collection would be duplicative of the KIQ process.

4. RECOMMENDATION: That DCI sign letter opposite.

DANIEL O. GRAHAM
Lieutenant General, USA
D/DCI/IC

Attachment

D/DIA Letter w/ background

P.S. I discovered informally that DIA was not interested in CCPC pursuing the subject -- they just want to be sure that it is being pursued.

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